

Message Text

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R 251201Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6373

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

USMISSION GENEVA

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EMBASSIES ALSO FOR DEA

PARIS ALSO FOR CUSTOMS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, NL

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS COUNTRY ACTION PLAN: NETHERLANDS

REF: (A) STATE 139804, (B) STATE 152604, (C) HAGUE 6001

(D) HAGUE 1126

SUMMARY: THE EMBASSY'S BASIC GOAL IN NARCOTICS CONTROL
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CONTINUES TO BE TWO-FOLD: (A) CURTAIL THE GROWING
TRAFFICKING IN HARD DRUGS THROUGH THE NETHERLANDS
TO THE US MARKET AND ELIMINATE THE POTENTIAL FOR THE
NETHERLANDS BECOMING AN ENTREPOT FOR SUCH TRAFFICKING;

AND (B) REDUCE SIGNIFICANTLY THE FLOW OF ILLICIT DRUGS FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO US FORCES IN EUROPE, ESPECIALLY GERMANY. MAIN HURDLES TO ACHIEVING OUR GOAL HAVE BEEN THE TOLERANT ATTITUDE THAT HAS PERMITTED DOMESTIC DRUG ABUSE TO GROW UNHINDERED AND THE MYOPIA AND INDIFFERENCE AT OFFICIAL LEVELS WITH RESPECT TO BOTH THE DEVELOPING SITUATION AS WELL AS ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NETHERLANDS AND OTHER COUNTRIES. A LARGE PART OF OUR TASK HAS THEREFORE BEEN TO PERSUADE THE DUTCH THAT THEIR PASSIVITY HAS BEEN TANTAMOUNT TO A DE FACTO POLICY OF ENCOURAGING DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING AND THAT THE GROWING DANGER WILL NOT SUBSIDE WITHOUT VIGOROUS AND MORE COMPREHENSIVE ACTION ON THEIR PART WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME. WE ARE NOW AT THE POINT WHERE WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN HAVING THE DUTCH DON CORRECTIVE LENSES; THEY HAVE BEGUN TO PERCEIVE THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PROBLEM AND ARE PREPARING THEMSELVES TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. AT THIS CRITICAL JUNCTURE, THE US SHOULD INTENSIFY ITS OWN NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES IN THE NETHERLANDS AND MAINTAIN LOW-KEY PRESSURE ON GON POLICY LEVELS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS TO INCREASE ALL FORMS OF COOPERATION WITH US AUTHORITIES. THE PATH THE DUTCH MUST TREAD IS STREWN WITH OBSTACLES LARGE AND SMALL, FROM BUDGETARY STRINGENCIES THAT PROMISE TO RESULT IN CUTBACKS IN MANY GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS SAVE TOP-PRIORITY ONES (WHICH FOR THEM DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM IS NOT), TO PETTY INTER-AGENCY RIVALRIES THAT THREATEN TO REDUCE EFFECTIVENESS OF PLANNED ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (HAGUE 2123). FOR THE PAST SIX MONTHS, AT OUR INITIATIVE AND WITH THE ENERGETIC SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT, DEA AND OTHER US AGENCIES CONCERNED, WE HAVE BEEN OPERATING AN INTENSIFIED (BUT DELIBERATELY UNPUBLICIZED) PROGRAM THAT IS UTILIZING ALL AVAILABLE MISSION RESOURCES. WE EXPECT THAT THE COMING YEAR WILL REQUIRE THAT WE MAKE ADDITIONAL INPUTS, AS DISCUSSED IN THIS MESSAGE, IF THE NEW-FOUND DUTCH RESOLVE IS NOT TO FOUNDER. WITH MODEST ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM WASHINGTON, NOTABLY CONFIDENTIAL

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THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL FSO TO SERVE AS A FULL-TIME NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE MOMENTUM WE HAVE HELPED TO GENERATE CAN BE ACCELERATED, THUS BRINGING CLOSER TO REALITY THE PROJECTED DUTCH STRUCTURE FOR EFFECTIVE DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ILLICIT TRAFFICKING. END SUMMARY.

1. STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS: THE BASIC PROBLEM IN ACHIEVING BOTH THE PRIMARY AND MORE IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES OF OUR NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM IN THE NETHERLANDS IS THE GENERAL UNWILLINGNESS OF DUTCH AUTHORITIES AND THE DUTCH POPULATION TO REGARD THE DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING SITUATION WITH THE SERIOUSNESS IT DESERVES. THIS

PREVALENT LACKADAISICAL ATTITUDE, TO WHICH HAPPILY THERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT EXCEPTIONS AS DISCUSSED LATER, IS COMPOUNDED ON THE PART OF SOME DUTCH AUTHORITIES BY A DEFENSIVENESS WHICH DERIVES FROM THEIR KNOWLEDGE THAT THEIR COUNTRY IS NOT DOING ENOUGH AND COULD DO A LOT MORE WITH A MORE DETERMINED ATTITUDE. AS REGARDS THE DUTCH POPULATION, THEIR GENERAL ATTITUDE TOWARD DRUG ABUSE IS MARKED BY A HIGH DEGREE OF PERMISSIVENESS AND A FEELING THAT EXPERIMENTATION AND EVEN REGULAR USE OF DRUGS ARE PART OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S SELF-ENDOWED RIGHTS. THE PUBLIC IS BY AND LARGE UNAWARE THAT BOTH DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING ARE GROWING. TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY ARE RECOGNIZED AS PROBLEMS AT ALL, THEY ARE CONSIDERED MINOR ONES ABOUT WHICH CERTAIN OUTSIDERS, NOTABLY AMERICANS, MAKE TOO MUCH FUSS.

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2. TRAFFICKING/PROCESSING: THE DRUGS REACHING HOLLAND ARE MOSTLY HASHISH, BOTH SOLID AND LIQUID, FROM THE MIDDLE EAST, AND ASIAN HEROIN, MOSTLY NO. 3. NATIONAL AND MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS CONCEDE THE DATA

BASED ON SEIZURES REVEAL ONLY "THE TIP OF THE ICEBERT".
HASHISH HAS BEEN KNOWN TO ENTER THE COUNTRY, OFTEN
IN MULTI-TON QUANTITIES, BY SEA, BY INLAND WATER TRANSPORT,
AND OVERLAND BY TRUCK. LIQUID HASHISH ("HASH OIL") IS
ENTERING THE COUNTRY WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY, CONCEALED
IN THE BAGGAGE OR ACCOMPANYING BAGGAGE OF INDIVIDUAL
TRAVELERS. HEROIN IS BELIEVED TO ARRIVE MOST OFTEN
CONCEALED IN BAGGAGE OF INDIVIDUAL TRAVELERS, OFTEN
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ETHNIC ASIANS, ENTERING THE COUNTRY BY AIR OR OVERLAND
(RAIL AND CAR) FROM NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES (BELGIUM,
FRANCE) OR, ACCORDING TO DUTCH OFFICIAL SOURCES, AMONG
THE EFFECTS OF INDIVIDUAL CHINESE SEAMEN, ALTHOUGH HARD
EVIDENCE TO SUBSTANTIATE THE LATTER IS GENERALLY LACKING.

3. TRAFFICKING SEEMS TO BE MOSTLY MID-TO-LOW LEVEL, WITH
INDIVIDUAL DEALERS WORKING INDEPENDENTLY OF EACH OTHER.
WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY, DEALS ARE CONSUMMATED IN
CITIES OTHER THAN AMSTERDAM, OFTEN IN THE SOUTH OR THE
EAST OF THE COUNTRY, ALTHOUGH AMSTERDAM REMAINS THE
PRINCIPAL CENTER FOR THIS ACTIVITY. THERE IS NO FIRM
EVIDENCE OF ANY NARCOTICS PROCESSING BEING DONE IN THE
NETHERLANDS AT PRESENT ALTHOUGH WE HAVE TO ASSUME THAT
ONE OR MORE HEROIN LABORATORIES MAY ALREADY BE UNDER
CONSIDERATION BY INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKERS. THERE IS NO
DOUBT THAT A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF THE ILLICIT DRUGS,
MOSTLY HASHISH, REACHING US TROOPS STATIONED IN
GERMANY IS OBTAINED ON THE DUTCH BLACK MARKET. INDIVIDUAL
SERVICEMEN ON ACTIVE DUTY OR RECENTLY ON ACTIVE DUTY IN
GERMANY APPEAR TO BE THE VEHICLE FOR MUCH OF THIS LOW-LEVEL,
LARGELY UNORGANIZED TRAFFIC.

4. PRODUCTION: APART FROM AMPHETAMINES THE
ONLY OTHER DRUG PRODUCED ILLICITLY IN THE NETHERLANDS
ACCORDING TO THE EXPERTS IS MARIJUANA, WHICH
IS GROWN IN SMALL AMOUNTS IN BACK LOTS OR IN FLOWER
BOXES.

5. LOCAL DRUG ABUSE: BY CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES THE
DOMESTIC ADDICT POPULATION IN THE NETHERLANDS HAS
GROWN FROM SEVERAL HUNDRED ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO TO
SEVERAL THOUSAND TODAY, MOST OF THEM HEROIN ADDICTS.
IN 1974 THE NUMBER OF ADDICTS OF ALL KINDS WAS ESTIMATED
AT BETWEEN 5 AND 10,000 WITH THE MAJORITY CENTERED
AROUND AMSTERDAM. HOWEVER, DRUG ADDICTION IS ALSO FOUND
IN ROTTERDAM AND OTHER CITIES AND IS SPREADING INTO THE
RURAL AREAS.

6. CONSTRAINTS:
(A) CONCEPTUAL: IN ADDITION TO A RESIDUAL RELUCTANCE,
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NOTABLY IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, TO VIEW NARCOTICS ABUSE AS A MAJOR THREAT, THE GON'S VIEW IS THAT NOT ALL ILLICIT DRUGS WHICH ARE ABUSED CARRY WITH THEM THE SAME RISKS AND DANGERS FOR SOCIETY. THE GON ARGUES THAT THOSE DRUGS WHICH WHEN ABUSED CARRY AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK OF HARM TO SOCIETY MUST BE FOUGHT MORE VIGOROUSLY THAN DRUGS CARRYING A LESSER RISK. IN FACT, THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT'S POSITION IS TO SEEK THE LEGALIZATION OF CANNABIS USE (I.E., MARIJUANA AND HASHISH), ALTHOUGH FOR THE TIME BEING (AND SO LONG AS THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, TO WHICH THE NETHERLANDS IS A PARTY, REQUIRES SANCTIONS AGAINST CANNABIS) THE GOVERNMENT IS RECOMMENDING THAT USE AND POSSESSION FOR USE OF "CANNABIS" BE CONSIDERED A NON-CRIMINAL OFFENSE PUNISHABLE BY A FINE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOVERNMENT IS RECOMMENDING THAT THE FOUR-YEAR MAXIMUM PENALTY PERMITTED UNDER THE PRESENT OPIUM LAW, WHICH GOVERNS ALL DRUG OFFENSES, BE RAISED SUBSTANTIALLY (TO 12 YEARS) IN THE CASE OF INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN HEROIN. AN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S WHITE PAPER WAS TRANSMITTED UNDER HAGUE A-77 OF 5/20/75. THE WHITE PAPER AND AN ACCOMPANYING DRAFT BILL TO AMEND THE OPIUM LAW ARE EXPECTED TO BE DEBATED IN PARLIAMENT SOMETIME AFTER THE SUMMER RECESS.

(B) JURIDICAL: SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESENT OPIUM LAW HAVE SELDOM, IF EVER, BEEN APPLIED BY THE JUDICIARY TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED, ALTHOUGH IN THE CASE OF CERTAIN OFFENSES, EVEN THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS CONSIDERED INADEQUATE BY THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. THE LIGHT SENTENCES HANDED DOWN BY THE INDEPENDENT DUTCH JUDICIARY HAVE THUS BEEN A FURTHER CONSTRAINT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO APPLY SANCTIONS TO DETER TRAFFICKING.

(C) FRAGMENTED JURISDICTIONS: WHILE CRIMINAL LAW IS UNIFORM THROUGHOUT THE NETHERLANDS, ITS ENFORCEMENT IS FRAGMENTED. THE LARGER MUNICIPALITIES HAVE THEIR

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OWN POLICE DEPARTMENTS WHILE ELSEWHERE THE NETHERLANDS
STATE POLICE (RIJKSPOLITIE) HAS JURISDICTION. THE
OPIUM LAW HAS PROBABLY BEEN CHARACTERIZED MORE BY
THE FAILURE OR INABILITY OF THE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
TO ENFORCE IT THAN BY THE JUDICIAL BRANCH TO APPLY
IT. TO A LARGE EXTENT THE INADEQUATE PERFORMANCE OF
THE VARIOUS POLICE DEPARTMENTS CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO
LACK OF SUFFICIENT GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE POLICY
LEVELS. THE NUMBERS OF DUTCH POLICE OFFICERS ASSIGNED
TO NARCOTICS WORK IS TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND MORALE
IS NOT HIGH. RIVALRIES BETWEEN "COMPETING" POLICE
DEPARTMENTS HAVE NOT FAILED TO EXACT THEIR TOLL.
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UNEVEN AND UNENTHUSIASTIC ENFORCEMENT IS THUS AN
IMPORTANT CONSTRAINT.

(D) PUBLIC APATHY: PUBLIC APATHY CAN BE, AND OFTEN IS,
REFLECTED IN APATHY AT THE OFFICIAL LEVEL. TO SOME
DEGREE THE SLOWNESS AND HESITATION ON THE PART
OF NETHERLANDS AUTHORITIES TO RECOGNIZE THE GROWING
PROBLEM IN THEIR COUNTRY REFLECTS THE LACK OF URGENCY
MANIFEST ON THE ISSUE IN MOST SECTORS OF DUTCH SOCIETY.
HERE AGAIN, MENTION SHOULD BE MADE OF THE GREAT
TOLERANCE AMONG THE DUTCH FOR SOCIAL DIVERSITY (IF
NOT DEVIANCE). AT A TIME WHEN BREAD-AND-BUTTER ISSUES
PROMISE TO OCCUPY CENTER STAGE FOR AT LEAST SOME
TIME (A WHOPPING GOVERNMENT BUDGET DEFICIT ACCOMPANIED
BY STAGNATING GROWTH THREATEN TO CHIP AWAY AT THE
HIGH DUTCH STANDARD OF LIVING), IT WILL NOT BE EASY
TO FOCUS PUBLIC ATTENTION ON "SECONDARY" SOCIAL ISSUES.
(E) LEGAL: AT PRESENT, EVIDENCE SECURED BY MEANS

OF CERTAIN TYPES OF UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS IS NOT ADMISSIBLE IN DUTCH COURTS. THIS CONSTITUTES A CONSTRAINT BECAUSE THE DUTCH DEFINITION OF "ENTRAPMENT" INCLUDES ANY SALE OF DRUGS TO UNDERCOVER POLICE OFFICERS BY UNSUSPECTING TRAFFICKERS.

(F) DIPLOMATIC/PSYCHOLOGICAL: DUTCH POLITICAL AUTHORITIES AND TO A LESSER EXTENT WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS TEND TO RESENT AND RESIST EFFORTS BY OUTSIDE COUNTRIES OR BY UN BODIES TO CALL ATTENTION TO DUTCH REMISSNESS IN ADDRESSING THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM MORE FIRMLY AND EFFECTIVELY. AS THE DUTCH SAY ABOUT THEMSELVES, EVERY DUTCHMAN IS A CALVINIST REGARDLESS OF HIS RELIGION OR LACK OF IT AND THE CALVINIST CONSCIENCE HAS GREAT DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPTING CRITICISM EVEN WHEN IT IS CONSTRUCTIVE AND DESERVED. ATTEMPTS BY OUTSIDERS, HOWEVER, PROFESSIONAL AND WELL-INTENTIONED, TO AID THE DUTCH IN REALIZING THE MAGNITUDE OF THEIR PROBLEM AND THE NEED TO COPE WITH IT ARE OFTEN REBUFFED OR IGNORED. THE EXPERIENCE IN RECENT YEARS WITH REGARD TO OUR OWN PROGRAM HAS BEEN A LITTLE HAPPIER SIMPLY BECAUSE WE ARE THE ONLY OUTSIDE ENTITY WHICH HAS WAGED A PATIENT, LOW-KEY CAMPAIGN AIMED CONFIDENTIAL

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AT GREATER DUTCH UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION. HOWEVER, EVEN WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO PUSH TOO HARD AND ABOVE ALL TO AVOID THE KIND OF PUBLICITY THAT WOULD CAUSE A BLOW-UP BY DUTCH AUTHORITIES.

7. GOALS:

(A) ENTRY INTO OPERATION OF A NATIONAL NARCOTICS POLICE SQUAD DIRECTED FROM THE HAGUE WITH INVESTIGATIVE AND ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY COVERING THE WHOLE COUNTRY-TARGET DATE: OCTOBER 1, 1975.

(B) ADOPTION OF PENDING LEGISLATION TO MAKE POSSIBLE MORE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT AND MORE STRINGENT PUNISHMENT OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING-TARGET DATE: DECEMBER 1, 1975.

(C) AMENDMENT OF THE PRESENT BILATERAL US-NETHERLANDS EXTRADITION TREATY TO COVER SERIOUS NARCOTICS OFFENSES-TARGET DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 1975.

(D) INCREASED CONTRIBUTION BY THE GON TO THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (INITIAL AND ONLY PLEDGE, IN 1972, WAS FOR ABOUT \$115,000 IN KIND). TARGET DATE: FEBRUARY 1976.

(E) MOTIVATE, THROUGH SEMINARS, COURSES AND PERSONAL CONTACTS, THE DUTCH CUSTOMS SERVICE TO ACCORD HIGHER PRIORITY TO INTERDICTION OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.

(F) STIMULATE THE AWARENESS AND CONCERN OF THE DUTCH PUBLIC AND OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN PARLIAMENT RE THE DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING PROBLEM IN THE NETHERLANDS.

(G) INCREASED VIGILANCE BY DUTCH CUSTOMS AND MILITARY POLICE TO REDUCE NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING FROM THE NETHERLANDS DESTINED FOR US FORCES STATIONED IN THE FRG.

(H) INTENSIFICATION OF EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION, EXPERIENCE
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AND TECHNIQUES BETWEEN US AND DUTCH OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE EXPERTS IN THE DRUG PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION

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FIELD, THROUGH A STRUCTURED, MUTUALLY AGREED PROGRAM.
TARGET DATE FOR AGREEMENT: DECEMBER 1975.

(I) INCREASED RECEPTIVITY OF DUTCH OFFICIALS AND
PARLIAMENTARIANS TO US PROPOSALS TO EXPAND COOPERATION
IN COMBATING DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING.

8. PROGRAMS IN SUPPORT OF GOALS:

BACKGROUND: IN NOVEMBER 1974 THE EMBASSY LAUNCHED A
THREE-PRONGED PROGRAM TO PERSUADE KEY GON OFFICIALS TO
REORGANIZE AND STRENGTHEN DRUG ENFORCEMENT SERVICES,
TO OBTAIN EFFECTIVE SANCTIONS FOR CONVICTED TRAFFICKERS
AND TO ALERT THE DUTCH PUBLIC TO THE EXTENT, DANGERS
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AND COST OF HARD DRUG TRAFFICKING. GON ENFORCEMENT
AND HEALTH OFFICIALS, THE JUDICIARY AND THE MEDIA
WERE IDENTIFIED AS OUR THREE MAIN TARGET GROUPS. THE
MOST SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS SO FAR HAS BEEN IN THE
ENFORCEMENT FIELD AS REFLECTED IN THE MUCH STIFFER
PENALTIES FOR TRAFFICKING IN HARD DRUGS CALLED FOR
IN THE GON'S DRAFT DRUG LEGISLATION AND THE DECISION
OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE TO SET UP A CENTRAL
NARCOTICS SQUAD UNDER HIS DIRECTION TO REDUCE THE
PRESENT PROBLEMS OF OVERLAPPING JURISDICTION AND
INSUFFICIENT MOTIVATION. THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD NOT
HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN
ATTITUDE AND DETERMINATION OF MINISTER OF JUSTICE VAN
AGT FOLLOWING HIS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO WASHINGTON
AND NEW YORK LAST JANUARY (HAGUE 3078).

9. DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS:

THE EMBASSY PLANS TO CARRY OUT THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS
OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS IN FURTHERANCE OF THE GOALS LISTED
ABOVE:

(A) PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEXT CND SESSION- BUILDING ON
THE GOOD WILL AND MUTUAL RESPECT GENERATED BY THE
VISIT OF SAODAP/NIDA DIRECTOR DUPONT TO THE NETHERLANDS
IN MAY, WE WILL FOLLOW THROUGH WITH DUTCH AUTHORITIES ON
HIS PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES ON THE
CND DELEGATIONS OF THE US, THE NETHERLANDS AND (AT
DR. DUPONT'S SUGGESTION) CANADA TO BE HELD SHORTLY IN
ADVANCE OF THE NEXT CND SESSION IN FEBRUARY 1976. THE
NETHERLANDS MINISTER OF HEALTH HAS BLESSED THIS
PROPOSAL AND WE ANTICIPATE NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN
IMPLEMENTING IT. PURPOSE: TO CHART PLANS AND AGREE
ON COORDINATING ACTION DURING THE SESSION.

(B) SIDE VISIT TO THE HAGUE BY ONE OR MORE SENIOR US
OFFICIALS WHO WILL ATTEND THE REGIONAL NARCOTICS
COORDINATOR CONFERENCE IN PARIS THIS SEPTEMBER
(STATE 151596).

(C) US VISIT NEXT SPRING BY A (YET TO BE SELECTED) SENIOR

DUTCH OFFICIAL UNDER THE DEPARTMENT'S HIGH-LEVEL VISITORS PROGRAM.

(D) EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE COORDINATOR OF THE FUTURE NATIONAL DRUG SQUAD (SEE HAGUE 1126) TO VISIT THE US
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FOR A TOUR D'HORIZON WITH US EXPERTS AND FOR A FIRSTHAND APPRAISAL OF US TECHNIQUES. (WASHINGTON CONCURRENCE HAS ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED-STATE 167976.)

(E) PURSUE A MORE ACTIVIST INFORMATION CAMPAIGN WITH THE MEDIA. OBJECTIVE: TO GIVE OUR PROGRAM-RELATED ACTIVITIES GREATER PUBLICITY AND IMPACT, CONSISTENT WITH THE NEED TO MAINTAIN OPEN CHANNELS TO THE GON. WE INTEND TO GIVE WIDER CIRCULATION TO STATEMENTS OF LEADING US OFFICIALS AND PERSONALITIES.

(F) PURSUE WITH THE JUDICIARY A DIALOGUE AIMED AT BROADENING THEIR PERSPECTIVE WITH REGARD TO THE IMPORT OF THEIR POLICY OF LENIENCY TOWARD SERIOUS DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENSES.

(G) RESPOND PROMPTLY TO REQUESTS FOR US PUBLICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NETHERLANDS PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCIES, WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS, SCHOOLS, ETC. WASHINGTON'S RESPONSE TO SUCH REQUESTS VIA THE EMBASSY HAS OFTEN BEEN SLOW, AND WE WOULD HOPE FOR PROMPTER ACTION IN ORDER TO PROVIDE BETTER SERVICE TO OUR CONTACTS IN THE NETHERLANDS.

(H) RESEARCH: ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND VISITS BETWEEN US AND DUTCH AGENCIES. IMPORTANT BASIC RESEARCH IS BEING CONDUCTED IN THE NETHERLANDS ON CANNABIS AND ON PAPAVER (THE LATTER UNDER AN ARS RESEARCH CONTRACT).

(I) HARD DRUG ABUSE SEMINAR: AS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EMBASSY'S EFFORT TO ACCENTUATE PUBLIC CONCERN FOR THE DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING PROBLEM AND SPECIFICALLY TO GENERATE MORE COVERAGE BY THE MEDIA, WE DECIDED LAST YEAR TO WORK TOWARD GON AGREEMENT TO HOST A DRUG ABUSE SEMINAR WHICH WOULD BRING TOGETHER EXPERTS FROM DIVERSE FIELDS AND FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE US. PURPOSE: TO EXPLORE THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PROBLEM AND, IF POSSIBLE, LAY THE FOUNDATIONS FOR INCREASED COOPERATION IN REHABILITATION AND TREATMENT RESEARCH. FOR RESONS

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OF NATIONAL SENSITIVITY DISCUSSED EARLIER IN THIS REPORT, WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED A STRONG AVERSION TO THIS PROJECT, ON THE PART OF MOST DUTCH OFFICIALS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND HIS STAFF. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE IDEA AND LOOK FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE A FAVORABLE DECISION AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL WHICH WOULD ENABLE US TO OVERRIDE BUREAUCRATIC RESISTANCE.

(J) SEEK GON AGREEMENT TO HOLD AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF A SPECIALIZED NATURE IN THE NETHERLANDS, SUCH AS THE CONFERENCE HELD IN PARIS AT US INITIATIVE IN OCTOBER, 1973 ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE. (SEE STATE 4405 (1973)). SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD INVOLVE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE DUTCH ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY IN THE PROCEEDINGS AND WOULD THEREFORE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR BASIC GOALS OF IMPROVED ENFORCEMENT TECHNIQUES AND INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE DRUG PROBLEM. WE RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SELECTING THE NETHERLANDS AS THE SITE FOR A FUTURE NARCOTICS-RELATED CONFERENCE.

10. ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

(A) THE FIRST DEA IN-COUNTRY COURSE IN THE NETHERLANDS WAS HELD IN JUNE AND ELICITED UNRESERVED PRAISE FROM DUTCH PARTICIPANTS AND OFFICIALS. THE FIRST CCINC

CUSTOMS IN-COUNTRY COURSE IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER. OTHER FIRSTS: A SPECIALIZED DRUG ENFORCEMENT TRAINING COURSE FOR POLICE DETECTIVES WILL BE HELD IN THE HAGUE THIS FALL ON A PILOT BASIS. (SEE HAGUE A-95, OF 6/13/75). ALSO THIS FALL: THE INTRODUCTION OF A NATION-WIDE NARCOTICS SQUAD WHICH THE JUSTICE MINISTER PROPOSED ON RETURN FROM HIS US VISIT LAST JANUARY (SEE HAGUE 0428 AND 3076).

(B) AS A RESULT OF THESE PROGRAMS,BETWEEN 30 AND 40 POLICE OFFICERS WILL HAVE RECEIVED SOME SPECIALIZED TRAINING BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, BUT IN OUR JUDGEMENT THIS CONSTITUTES ONLY A GOOD BEGINNING. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE, SUBJECT TO DEA AND GON CONCURRENCE, A SECOND DEA IN-COUNTRY SCHOOL FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF FY '76 OR EARLIER.

1. THREATMENT AND REHABILITATION: IN VIEW OF THE NETHERLANDS' INTENTION TO DEVELOP DEMAND-REDUCTION PROGRAMS THROUGH ITS ALREADY WELL-ESTABLISHED HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEM, THIS AREA IS ATTRACTIVE FOR STUDY BY HEALTH OFFICIALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE US. WE THEREFORE INTEND TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF EXCHANGING EXPERTS BETWEEN RELEVANT DUTCH AND US INSTITUTIONS (E.G., BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND NIDA) FOR IN-DEPTH STUDIES OF THE SYSTEM IN EACH OTHER'S COUNTRY.

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12. FULL-TIME NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER: DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS OF HIS ASSIGNMENT OF THE HAGUE DCM TANGUY HAS PERSONALLY SUPERVISED AND HELPTED TO ENERGIZE THE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM IN THE NETHERLANDS. HE HAS BEEN ASSISTED BY ONE SUBORDINATE OFFICER WHO HAS BEEN REQUIRED TO GIVE BETWEEN 25 AND 35 PERCENT OF HIS TIME TO NARCOTICS CONTROL WORK. THIS ARRANGEMENT WAS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY AT AN EARLIER STAGE WHEN DURG ABUSE WAS A RELATIVELY MINOR AND ISOLATED PHENOMENON IN THIS COUNTRY, AND INTERNATION TRAFFICKING IN HEROIN WAS THE EXCEPTION RATHER THAN THE RULE. WITH THE QUANTUM INCREASE IN BOTH DOMESTIC DRUG ABUSE AND INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING, AND WITH THE OPERATION OF AN ACTIVE DEA BRANCH OFFICE WITH TWO AGENTS STATIONED IN THE HAGUE, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO THINK IN TERMS OF ASSIGNING ONE SUBORDINATE OFFICER FULL TIME TO NARCOTICS CONTROL WORK. THE DCM AND AMBASSADOR WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE OVERALL SUPERVISION, ORIENTATION, AND STIMULATION, BUT THE EMBASSY WILL NEED THE SERVICES OF A NARCOTICS CONTROL SERVICESOF A NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER FULL TIME IF IT IS TO MOVE INTO A HIGHER GEAR AS DISCUSSED AND RECOMMENDED IN THIS REPORT. ANOTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IS THAT

THE EMBASSY OFFICER DESIGNATED TO PERFORM THE NARCOTICS CONTROL FUNCTION CANNOT POSSIBLY DO JUSTICE TO HIS REGULARLY ASSIGNED DUTIES SINCE HE IS NOW OBLIGED TO ALLOCATE UP TO 35PERCENT OF HIS TIME TO NARCOTICS WORK. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE DEPARTMENT GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO INCREASING THE FSO COMPLEMENT BY ONE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF A NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.

13. ANNEXES TO THIS NCAP FOLLOW UNDER COVER OF AIRGRAM.
TANGUY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975THEHA03746
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750257-1046
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507103/baaaafdf.tel
Line Count: 663
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 13
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <23 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: SNAR, NL
To: STATE INFO BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG

OTTAWA
PARIS
ROME
CURACAO
PARAMARIBO
GENEVA
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006